

MSc / PgD in
**International
Shipping and
Transport
Logistics**

2026-2027



THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

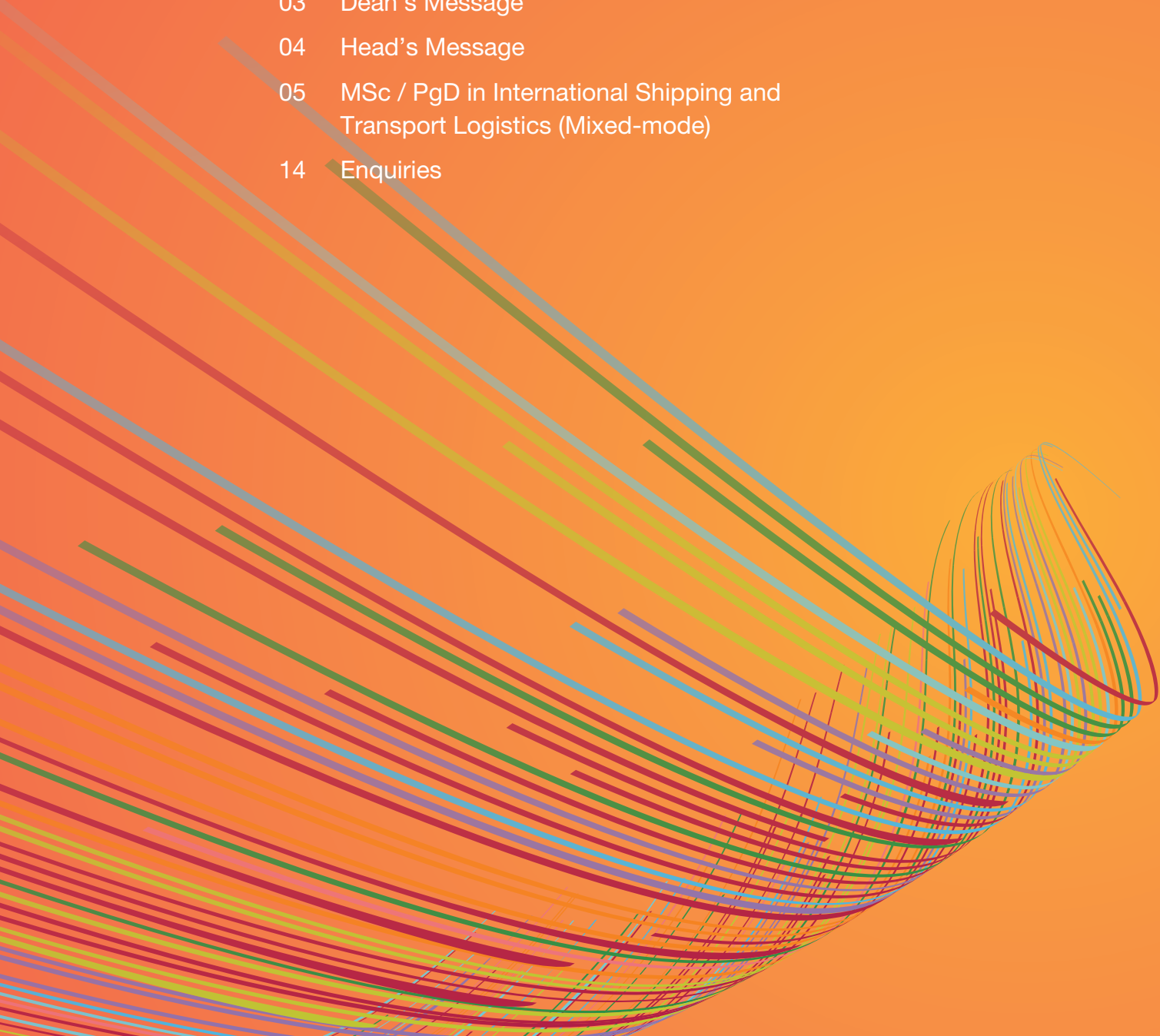


PolyU 理大商學院
Business School
Innovation-driven Education and Scholarship

Department of
**LOGISTICS
& MARITIME
STUDIES**
物流及航運學系



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- An abstract graphic consisting of numerous thin, curved lines in various colors (blue, green, yellow, orange, red, purple) that sweep across the bottom half of the page, creating a sense of motion and depth.

WHY POLYU

- Providing application-oriented education since 1937
- Collaborating with over 280 institutions
- Offering over 170 programmes
- Working on over 4,500 research projects

International Rankings

#03

QS World University
Rankings: Sustainability
2025 (Hong Kong)

#03

Times Higher Education
(THE) World's Most
International
Universities 2025

#07

Times Higher Education
(THE) Young University
Rankings 2024

#17

QS Asia University
Rankings 2025

WHY POLYU BUSINESS SCHOOL

- A comprehensive portfolio of academic programmes
- Over 200 world-class scholars including specialists in accounting, finance, logistics, management, marketing, and transport
- Research and specialist centres facilitate single and multidisciplinary studies
- International context and culturally diverse environment
- Network of over 55,000 alumni

Accreditations



International Rankings

#02

Clarivate
Web of Science
2022-2024: Shipping
Research

#04

Research.com
Best Business &
Management Universities
2025

#25

The U.S. News Rankings
Best Global Universities
for Economics & Business
2025

#35

UTD (University of Texas at
Dallas) Top 100 Worldwide
Business School Rankings
based on Research
Contributions 2020-2024

#37

Times Higher Education
(THE) World University
Rankings 2025:
Business & Economics

#46

QS World University
Rankings 2025:
Business & Management
Studies



DEAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Faculty of Business of PolyU.

The Faculty of Business, known as PolyU Business School (PBS), is a world-class business school that offers top-quality academic programmes and spearheads cutting-edge research in business and related disciplines. We take pride in our accreditations from AACSB International (The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) and EQUIS (EFMD Quality Improvement System).

Dedicated to the pursuit of **Innovation-driven Education and Scholarship (IDEAS)**, PBS collaborates with stakeholders to create a positive societal impact sustainably, with a focus on Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area. Through our educational programmes, partnerships, and close connections with industry and the professional community, we aim to share knowledge and technology with the wider community.

Our comprehensive portfolio of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, many of which are endorsed by professional bodies, encompass key areas such as accounting, aviation, business artificial intelligence, ESG, finance, logistics, management, maritime, marketing, shipping, and transport. Alongside the BBA, MBA, DBA, DBAI, DBM, DFinTech, DMgt, and specialised master's degrees, our research programmes also lead to the MPhil and PhD qualifications.

To maintain currency of our academic programmes and specialist consultancy services, our faculty members conduct pioneering and impactful research within and across their disciplines, supported by our Case Consortium and centres for branding and marketing, digital transformation, economic sustainability and entrepreneurial finance, financial technology, leadership and innovation, maritime data and sustainable development, and shipping and logistics. Our research has been ranked 35th globally in *The UTD Top 100 Worldwide Business School Rankings based on Research Contributions 2020-2024*.

We invite you to become part of our community of over 200 esteemed scholars from around the world, 5,300 students, and 55,000 alumni.

Ir Prof. T.C. Edwin Cheng

IASCYS Academician, FHKEng, ScD, PhD

Dean, Faculty of Business

Fung Yiu King – Wing Hang Bank Professor in Business Administration

Chair Professor of Management

HEAD'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the postgraduate programmes offered by the Department of Logistics and Maritime Studies at the Faculty of Business, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

As the region's foremost provider of education in logistics, maritime, supply chain and operations management, PolyU has established a strong academic reputation in these fields. We have founded four research centres – the C.Y. Tung International Centre for Maritime Studies, the PolyU Maritime Data and Sustainable Development Centre, the Logistics Research Centre and the Shipping Research Centre – to advance our mission of delivering high-quality research and education. Our postgraduate programmes, taught by highly qualified academics with extensive research and consultancy experience, will prepare you to contribute to the future development of Hong Kong and the Mainland in these sectors.

The Faculty of Business blends the best of academia and real-world business. Our curriculum strikes a balance between academic theories and practical applications. We have collaborated closely with leading professionals in Hong Kong's logistics and maritime industries to ensure our programmes remain relevant in today's ever-evolving business landscape.

Our Faculty is ranked 35th globally, according to the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) Top 100 Worldwide Business School Rankings, based on research contributions to 24 leading business journals between 2020 and 2024. Join us for a unique learning experience in logistics, maritime, and operations management, and equip yourself for future challenges.

mike lai

Prof. Mike Lai

Associate Dean (Academic Support), Faculty of Business
Interim Head and Chair Professor of Shipping and Logistics
Department of Logistics and Maritime Studies

MSc / PgD in **INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT LOGISTICS** (Mixed-mode)

Programme Code:

MSc: 44087-IFM (Full-time), 44087-IPM (Part-time)

PgD: 44087-TFP (Full-time), 44087-TPP (Part-time)

Programme Director:

Prof. Yang Dong

Deputy Programme Director:

Prof. Stephen Li

Aim

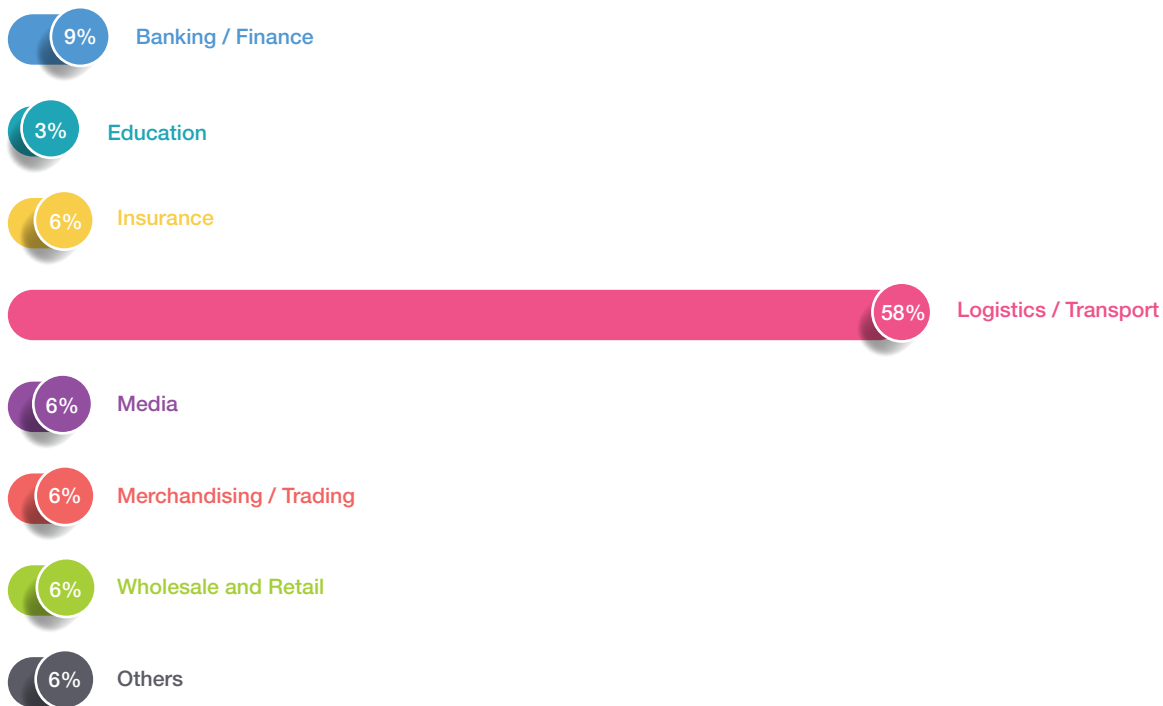
This programme enables students to introduce modern and cost-effective reforms into the shipping, transport, and logistics industries.

Features

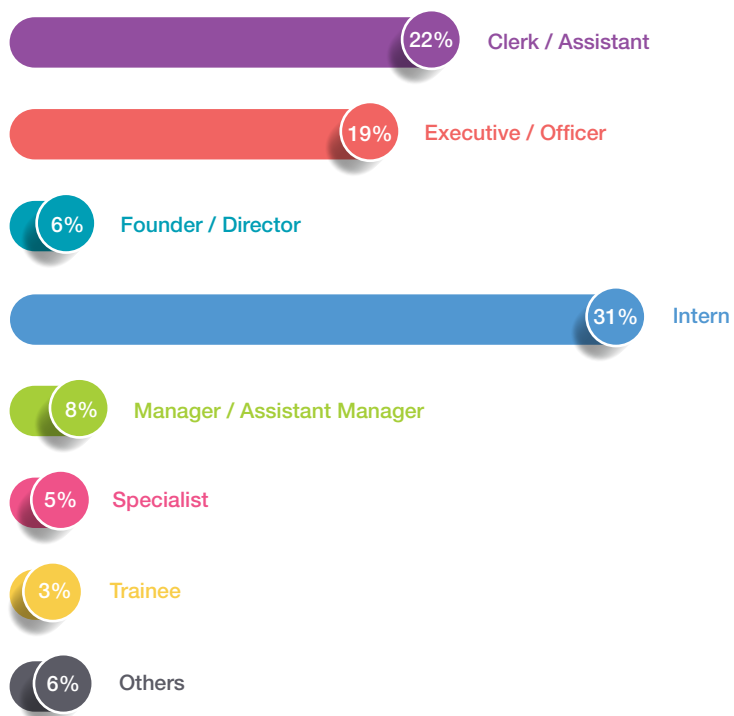
- Curriculum designed in consultation with industry leaders and prospective employers
- Academic theory balanced with professional practice
- Multidisciplinary knowledge integrated with specialist expertise
- Graduates pursue diverse career paths
- Graduates are granted exemptions from professional examinations
- Postgraduate Diploma offered as an intermediate exit

Professional Recognition

- Graduates with the MSc in International Shipping and Transport Logistics are granted full exemption from the Qualifying Examination of The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong (CILTHK).
- Graduates with the PgD in International Shipping and Transport Logistics are granted Level 1 and Level 2 (6 subjects) exemption from the Qualifying Examination of The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong (CILTHK).
- Graduates with the MSc/PgD in International Shipping and Transport Logistics are granted exemption from the following subject of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers (ICS):
 - Introduction to Shipping
- Students who complete one or more relevant subjects in MSc in International Shipping and Transport Logistics are eligible to apply for the following qualifications provided by the Six Sigma Institute (SSI) (Subject to approval):
 - Registered Lean Six Sigma Green Belt (RLSSGB)
 - Registered Six Sigma Green Belt (RSSGB) and -Registered Lean Leader (RLL)
 - Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Certificate



2025 / 26 Intake by Sector



2025 / 26 Intake by Role

Structure (subject to review)

For MSc

Students complete 34 credits (2 Compulsory Subjects, 5 Restricted Elective Subjects and 5 Free Elective Subjects).

In addition to the Compulsory and Restricted Elective Subjects, students can choose to complete a 6-credit Project plus 3 Free Elective Subjects.

For PgD

Students complete 19 credits (2 Compulsory Subjects and 5 Restricted Elective Subjects).

Compulsory Subject

*(for both MSc and PgD) **

- Academic Integrity and Ethics in Business (1 credit)
- International Logistics Systems, Operations and Management *

Restricted Elective Subjects

Students need to choose at least 5 Restricted Elective Subjects *(for both MSc and PgD)*

Choose at least two from the focus on International Shipping:

- AI and Digitalisation in the Global Shipping Industry (Subject to approval)
- Liner Shipping Management*
- Organisational Management in Shipping and Logistics*
- Port Policy and Management*
- Ship Chartering Strategies*
- Strategic Management for International Shipping

Choose at least one from the focus on Shipping Economics and Finance:

- Finance for Shipping and Logistics*
- Shipping Economics and Markets*

Choose at least one from the focus on Shipping Law and Insurance:

- Law and Practice in Marine Insurance*
- Shipping Law*

Choose at least one from the focus on International Logistics:

- Air Transport Logistics and Management*
- Supply Chain Management*

Students may take more Restricted Elective Subjects than required. The extras will be counted as Free Elective Subjects.

Free Elective Subjects

(for MSc only) ⁺

Focus on International Shipping:

- Maritime Logistics

Focus on Shipping Economics and Finance:

- Accounting for Managers

Focus on Shipping Law and Insurance:

- Admiralty Law
- Contract Management
- Maritime Arbitration Law

Focus on International Logistics (Air Logistics Management):

- Air Transport Regulatory Policy
- Airline Strategic Management
- Airport Business Management
- Aviation Marketing
- Aviation Safety Management
- Intermodal Transport Management

Others:

- Applications of Decision Making Models
- Coding for Management with Python
- E-Commerce
- Enterprise Resource Planning
- Information Systems for Supply Chain Management
- Lean Six Sigma and Quality Management Techniques (Subject to approval)
- Project (6 credits)
- Project Management
- Research Methods
- Research Project in International Shipping and Transport Logistics (Subject to approval)
- Risk Management in Operations
- Statistics for Management
- Strategies and Technologies in Warehousing Management
- Transport Logistics in China

⁺ The offering of subjects is subject to class quota availability.

[^] Each subject counts for 3 credits while Project is worth 6 credits.

The programme (MSc in International Shipping and Transport Logistics) is recognized under the Qualifications Framework (QF Level 6).



^{*} These subjects have been included in the list of reimbursable courses under the Continuing Education Fund (CEF).

Mode of study: Mixed-mode

Students can pursue their studies in either a full-time study load (taking 9 credits or more in a semester) or a part-time study load (taking less than 9 credits in a semester). In general, **one evening class** per week will be scheduled for each subject over a regular 13-week semester and **two evening classes** per week over a 7-week optional Summer Term.

Duration

For MSc

Part-time mode: two and a half (2.5) academic years including optional summer terms

Full-time mode: two (2) academic years including optional summer terms

Students can complete the programme in one (1) year in Full-time mode according to their own study pace.

For PgD

Part-time mode: two and a half (2.5) academic years including optional summer terms

Full-time mode: two (2) academic years including optional summer terms

Students can complete the programme in one (1) year in Full-time mode according to their own study pace.

Students who wish to extend their studies beyond normal duration can submit such request to the Department of Logistics and Maritime Studies for consideration.

Students will be required to attend more classes in the evening if they choose the full-time option and the duration of study will be subject to class quota availability.

As students are more likely to find time to attend classes on weekends rather than weekdays, with prior arrangement, there may be occasional delivery in short block mode over weekends.

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Before joining the MSc in International Shipping and Transport Logistics (ISTL) programme, my knowledge of the maritime industry was mostly limited to bulk shipping. The programme significantly broadened my understanding, introducing me to a range of sectors within the shipping and logistics field. It not only expanded my professional vision, but also connected me with classmates from diverse maritime backgrounds. Through our discussions and exchanges, I gained new perspectives, which made my future career path clearer and deepened my passion for shipping. The professors were highly knowledgeable and supportive, and created an inspiring learning environment.

Thanks to the solid foundation and insights I gained from the programme, I'm now working as a newbuilding shipbroker—a role that involves projects across various vessel types, including container carriers, bulk carriers, tankers, roll-on/roll-off ships, and cruise ships. I've even had the unique opportunity to participate in sea trials and witness the delivery of brand-new vessels. These valuable experiences would not have been possible without the academic training, professional guidance, and industry exposure provided by the MSc ISTL programme. It's played a crucial role in shaping my career path and opening doors in the global maritime industry.

Feng Chunlei

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As a marine technology engineer, I spent five years developing intelligent ship systems after university. My work underscored the importance of user-centric design—taking into account the needs of both crew and shipowners—to better align with industry demands. I also learned the value of complying with maritime regulations, building reliable systems, and understanding market trends to seize emerging opportunities. These insights motivated me to pursue the ISTL programme, where I could deepen my understanding and address real-world challenges through focused learning.

In the ISTL programme, the school has designed a comprehensive and in-depth curriculum. As a student with limited prior knowledge of the shipping industry, I gradually built a broad and integrated understanding of the field by studying subjects such as shipping management and operations, shipping economics and markets, maritime law, and insurance. One of the most valuable aspects of the programme is its emphasis on independent thinking. Our professors consistently reminded us that real workplace challenges never come with standard answers—rather, they require the application of professional knowledge to analyse and resolve complex problems. This practical approach to learning has been immensely beneficial to me.

Equally inspiring was the teaching team's rich blend of academic expertise and industry experience. Among the team are navigation experts who once served as ocean-going captains, maritime investigators who have participated in major accident inquiries, and practising lawyers who have handled countless maritime cases. These instructors bring not only theoretical frameworks but also insights shaped by decades of professional experience. The vivid case studies and practical know-how they shared with us were genuinely enriching. This seamless integration of theory and practice enabled us to master core professional knowledge while staying close to the pulse of the shipping industry.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to grow through the ISTL programme. In line with the university's motto 'To learn and to apply, for the benefit of mankind', ISTL has empowered us to connect cutting-edge expertise with real-world industry challenges, equipping us to navigate the vast seas of our ambitions.

Li Xiaoyu

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Scholarships

Entry Scholarship

LMS HK Taught Postgraduate Admission Scholarships

- Full tuition fee coverage based on academic and non-academic performance

LMS Taught Postgraduate Scholarships

- Merit-based scholarship of HK\$50,000 for each recipient

Post-entry Scholarship

Merit-based Scholarships

- For Year One students with outstanding academic performance during their first year of study

PolyU reserves the right to change or withdraw the scholarship/fellowship at any time. In case of dispute/disagreement, PolyU's decision is final.

The Hong Kong Maritime and Logistics Scholarship Scheme

- For entry to Programme Stream 44087-ISS *
- Available for all local and non-local applicants

** Programme Stream 44087-ISS: Full-time Mode under the MSc in International Shipping and Transport Logistics Programme. For details of this Scholarship and Programme Stream 44087-ISS, please visit lms.polyu.edu.hk/study/tpg/istl/full-time-stream.*

Entrance Requirements

- i. A Bachelor's degree or equivalent qualification

OR

- ii. Full membership in one of the following professional bodies:
 - The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport, Hong Kong
 - The Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers, UK
 - The Chartered Insurance Institute, UK
 - The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply, UK

OR

- iii. Applicants with other post-secondary qualifications, who have been employed in the fields of maritime service, shipping, transport or logistics for not less than 6 years, of which 3 years in a managerial capacity, will also be considered.

If you are not a native speaker of English, and your Bachelor's degree or equivalent qualification is awarded by institutions where the medium of instruction is not English, you are expected to fulfil the University's minimum English language requirement for admission purpose. Please refer to the "Admission Requirements" section for Taught Postgraduate Programmes of Study@PolyU for details.

Shortlisted candidates may be invited to attend admission interviews.

Fee

HK\$300,300 per programme (HK\$9,100 per credit) for local and non-local MSc students

HK\$163,800 per programme (HK\$9,100 per credit) for local and non-local PgD students



'In shipping, a true leader is defined by results and operations.'

As a BBA graduate in International Shipping and Transport Logistics, and a newcomer to the industry, I couldn't agree more. From the outset, I knew textbooks alone wouldn't be enough—this field demands grit, adaptability, and real-world expertise.

That's why PolyU's MSc ISTL programme was a game-changer. It didn't just teach me the fundamentals—it threw me straight into the realities of shipping operations. From on-site visits to port facilities to analysing live case studies on global supply chain disruptions, the programme was hands-on, intense, and unapologetically practical.

Now, as I build my career at a leading global shipping company, those lessons have become my compass. I lean on the operational frameworks and leadership mindset the programme instilled in me—tools that help me navigate the complexities of the industry every day.

For anyone considering a career in shipping or logistics, no other programme in Hong Kong strikes the same balance between theory and rigorous, real-world application. This industry doesn't wait—you need to hit the ground running, and PolyU's MSc ISTL programme equips you to do exactly that!



Li Qianying



After working as a maritime consultant for a year, with a background in biology, I joined the ISTL programme to expand my domain knowledge and support my career development.

I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to pursue my studies with the support of the Hong Kong Maritime and Logistics Scholarship Scheme. The additional subject and internship requirements of the full-time stream enabled me to deepen and broaden my knowledge of the industry—offering me more than the mixed-mode stream.

The ISTL programme offers something for everyone: whether you're already working in, or looking to enter, the shipping, transportation and logistics sector. I enjoyed being taught by a blend of academic staff and industry practitioners, who brought both theoretical insight and practical expertise to the classroom—making our learning directly applicable to our professional lives. I also valued the flexibility to choose electives that aligned with my specific interests, allowing me to tailor the programme to my goals.

Now, having just completed my studies, I strongly encourage others to take this opportunity. Broaden your horizons, build lasting connections, and above all—never stop learning!



Helen Sin Mei Underwood



Enquiries

For further information

📞 (852) 2766 4065

✉️ mscisl.lms@polyu.edu.hk

For academic matters

Prof. Stephen Li 📞 (852) 2766 5009

✉️ Stephen.yk.li@polyu.edu.hk

Prof. Yang Dong 📞 (852) 2766 7413

✉️ dong.yang@polyu.edu.hk

🌐 www.polyu.edu.hk/lms/study/tpg/istl-mm

Online application: www.polyu.edu.hk/study

Department of Logistics and Maritime Studies

M628, Li Ka Shing Tower
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Hung Hom, Hong Kong

 (852) 2766 4607

 (852) 2330 2704

 lms.enquiry@polyu.edu.hk

 www.polyu.edu.hk/lms

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